



State of Connecticut

SENATE

STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

SENATOR MICHAEL A. McLACHLAN
TWENTY-FOURTH SENATE DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
SUITE 3400
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591
Capitol: (800) 842-1421
E-mail: Michael.McLachlan@cga.ct.gov
Website: www.SenatorMcLachlan.com

DEPUTY MINORITY LEADER

RANKING MEMBER
GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION &
ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

MEMBER
FINANCE, REVENUE, & BONDING COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

February 20, 2013

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and distinguished members of the Public Health Committee,

I am State Senator Michael McLachlan, and I am here today to speak in support of Senate Bill 230, *An Act Concerning Swimming in Certain Bodies of Water*.

For over 100 years, Lake Kenosia in Danbury has served as a swimming area for many Western Connecticut residents. Every summer families gather on the beaches to enjoy the beauty of the lake and cool off in its waters. I myself swam there as a child and have fond memories of those days.

I recently learned that swimming at Lake Kenosia was in jeopardy. According to an interpretation of Chapter 440 of Connecticut General Statutes given to the City of Danbury from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Lake Kenosia is no longer able to be used for swimming because other areas of the lake are used as a water source for the City.

While portions of Lake Kenosia are used for the City water source, they have been used as such for decades. For years those portions have been used, while in other areas of the lake have been enjoyed for swimming. Both of these purposes have been able to co-exist with one another without any adverse effects on the health and well-being of City residents.

This legislation will exempt bodies of water like Lake Kenosia, which have a long standing tradition of being both a water source and recreational swimming area, from Chapter 440 of the General Statutes as they currently stand. As stated before, there have been no apparent adverse effects on the health and well-being of City residents from this practice, therefore I would like to see the recreational use of the lake preserved for area residents.

I urge the committee to support this legislation.